

CLAIMS

1. A water soluble package containing a fluid substance for release on dissolution of the package, characterised in that the package has a body portion for containing the substance comprising a first sheet of a water soluble material thermoformed to form a body wall of the body portion, and a second sheet of water soluble material superposed on the first sheet and sealed thereto along a continuous region of the superposed sheets to form a base wall of the body portion, and in that the body portion of the package is generally dome shaped.
2. A package according to claim 1, characterised in that the maximum height of the body wall above the base wall is less than or equal to the maximum width of the base wall.
3. A package according to claim 1 ~~or claim 2~~, characterised in that the base wall is generally circular.
4. A capsule according to claim 1 ~~or claim 2~~, characterised in that the base wall is generally oval.
5. A package according to any one of claims ~~1 to 4~~, characterised in that the base wall is generally flat, or slightly concave or convex.
6. A package according to any one of claims ~~1 to 5~~, characterised in that the first sheet of water-soluble film comprises polyvinyl alcohol or a polyvinyl alcohol derivative.

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7. A package according to any one of claims ~~1 to 6~~ characterised in that the second sheet of water soluble material comprises polyvinyl alcohol or a polyvinyl alcohol derivative.
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8. A package according to any one of claims ~~1 to 7~~ characterised in that the fluid substance is a liquid, paste or a gel.
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9. A package according to any one of claims ~~1 to 8~~ characterised in that the fluid substance is a domestic consumer product.
10. A package according to claim 9, characterised in that the substance is a laundry detergent composition.
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11. A process for producing a water soluble package having a body portion containing a fluid substance for release on dissolution of the package, characterised in that the process comprises the steps of:
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- thermoforming a first sheet of a water soluble material to form a domed body wall of the body portion;
 - placing the fluid substance in the body portion;
 - superposing a second sheet of a water soluble material over the first sheet; and
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- heat sealing the first and second sheets along a continuous region of the superposed sheets surrounding the substance to form a base wall of the body portion.

12. A process according to claim 11, characterised in that the first sheet of water-soluble material is thermoformed by means of a heating plate.

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13. A process according to claim 11 ~~or claim 12,~~ characterised in that prior to the addition of the substance a vacuum is applied to the thermoformed body wall to maintain the shape of the body portion at least until after the heat sealing step.

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14. A process for the machine washing of laundry by employing a package according to any of claims ~~1 to 10,~~ characterised in that the fluid substance contained within the package comprises a laundry treatment agent, the process comprising the steps of:

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- placing at least one package into the machine along with the laundry to be washed; and

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- carrying out a washing operation.

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